

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 00458 131236Z

43

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /030 W

----- 012588

R 131044Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7454

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

CINCLANT

CINCEUR

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

CINCLANT AND CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, MZ, RH, OREP (DIGGS, CHARLES C.)

SUBJECT: CODEL DIGGS: CALL ON FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 274 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: CONGRESSMAN DIGGS CALLED ON FRELIMO VICE
PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS FEBRUARY 12. IN COURSE OF HALF HOUR
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 00458 131236Z

MEETING, AN AMIABLE DOS SANTOS EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ABOUT

CHANCES FOR NEGOTIATED RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT, AND DISCUSSED PLANS FOR MOZAMBIQUE INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES, FRELIMO'S CONCERN WITH RAISING POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS OF MASSES, AND THE SUPPORT FRELIMO HAD RECEIVED DURING LIBERATION STRUGGLE. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF ACCOMPANIED CONGRESSMAN DIGGS DURING HALF HOUR CALL FEBRUARY 12 ON FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT MARCELINO DOS SANTOS AT MOZAMBIQUE INSTITUTE OUTSIDE DAR ES SALAAM. AS IN HIS MEETING WITH FRANKLIN WILLIAMS (REFTEL), DOS SANTOS WAS FRIENDLY AND AFFABLE, THOUGH MAKING CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN DIGGS, AS SPOKESMAN FOR AMERICANS WHO SUPPORT AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS HAVING BEEN "INDIRECT ENEMY" OF FRELIMO. DURING CONVERSATION, HE MADE FOLLOWING PRINCIPAL POINTS:

3. RHODESAI: DOS SANTOS EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT RHODESIAN SITUATION WOULD BE RAPIDLY RESOLVED, AND THAT THE BASIC TIMETABLE FOR INDEPENDENCE UNDER MAJORITY RULE WOULD BE ESTABLISHED BEFORE THE END OF 1975, EVEN IF INDEPENDENCE ITSELF CAME LATER. HE ATTRIBUTED THIS TO SMITH'S WEAK POSITION RESULTING FROM THE COLLAPSE OF PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORT BY VORSTER.

4. INDEPENDENCE DAY CEREMONIES: DOS SANTOS SAID THAT HE AND PRESIDENT MACHEL WOULD ARRIVE IN LOURENCO MARQUES "A FEW HOURS" BEFORE THE MOMENT OF INDEPENDENCE. A FAIRLY BIG CELEBRATION WAS PLANNED, THOUGH HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE LIMITED TO SOME EXTENT BY FRELIMO'S LIMITED CAPABILITIES TO HOUSE DELEGATIONS ("WE AREN'T GOING TO SEIZE ALL THOSE EMPTY PORTUGUESE HOUSES") AND PROVIDE ESCORTS AND INTERPRETERS, TRANSPORTATION, AND SECURITY PROTECTION FOR VIP'S. HE SAID ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE WHO HAD SUPPORTED FRELIMO IN THE PAST HAD ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO ATTEND: "THEY DON'T EVEN ASK FOR INVITATIONS; THEY JUST TELL US THEY ARE COMING." AT LEAST ONE GROUP IN U.S. HAS CHARTERED A JUMBO JET -- AND ASKED FRELIMO TO HELP IN FILLING IT WITH PASSENGERS.

5. CURRENT PREOCCUPATIONS: THE MAIN TASK OF FRELIMO AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 DAR ES 00458 131236Z

THE MOMENT IS MOBILIZING AND RAISING POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS OF MOZAMBICANS LIVING IN THE SOUTHERN AREAS WHERE FRELIMO HAD ONLY OPERATED AS A RESTRICTED UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT. IN THE NORTH, THE PEOPLE IN FRELIMO CONTROLLED AREAS HAD LEARNED DISCIPLINE; IN THE SOUTH, THEY WERE SYMPATHETIC TO FRELIMO BUT NOW HAD TO BE TAUGHT DISCIPLINE. IT IS NOT ENOUGH THAT PEOPLE WORK, THEY MUST ALSO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY ARE DOING AND SHY, AND PARTICIPATE SPIRITUALLY AS WELL AS PHYSICALLY

IN THE REVOLUTION. "WE HAVE INHERITED GOOD GROUND," HE SAID,
"BUT IT IS NOW UP TO US TO PLANT THE TREE AND MAKE IT GROW."
FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS THE WATCHWORD WOULD HAVE TO BE WORK.

6. FRIENDS AND GOVERNMENTS: DOS SANTOS SAID THAT FRELIMO
HAD ALWAYS VGEARLY DISTINGUISHED BETWEEN PEOPLES AND GOVERN-
MENTS. THE BASIC INTERESTS OF ALL PEOPLES ARE BY DEFINITION
THE SAME, AND THEY ARE ONLY MISLED BY THE PROPAGANDA
OF GOVERNMENTS. FRELIMO HAD THUS NEVER CONSIDERED THE
PORTUGUESE PEOPLE AS ITS ENEMY, AND INDEED BY WINNING IN
MOZAMBIQUE FRELIMO HAD BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN LIBERATING
THE PORTUGUESE IN PORTUGAL. SIMILARLY, FRELIMO HAD ALWAYS
RECOGNIZED, AND APPRECIATED, ITS MANY FRIENDS IN AMERICA
EVEN THOUGH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAD ALWAYS BEEN AN "INDIRECT
ENEMY" BECAUSE OF ITS BACKING OF PORTUGAL. THAT WAS WHY
FRELIMO HAD ALWAYS REFUSED TO HAVE ANY RELATIONS WITH THE
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT OR ITS REPRESENTATIVES, WHILE THE USG
IN TURN HAD NEVER RECOGNIZED FRELIMO.

7. ALSO PRESENT AT MEETING, THOUGH THEY DID NOT PARTICIPATE,
WERE FRELIMO'S DEPUTY HEALTH CHIEF, (FNU) GUMBE (PHON.), AND
J. NAMASHURUA, A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHO HAS BEEN
DESCRIBED IN THE LOCAL PRESS AS FRELIMO LEADER IN THE SOUTHERN
REGION OF TANZANIA. THE MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN DIGGS LEFT
THE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR COOLING HIS HEELS IN AN ANTEROOM,
AND IN THE COURSE OF DIGGS' CALL DOS SANTOS SENT A MESSAGE ABOUT
A FILM SHOWING TO THE BULGARIAN EMBASSY.

8. COMMENT: THOUGH DOS SANTOS CONTINUES TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION
OF SUPPORT FRELIMO RECEIVED FROM PRIVATE AMERICAN INDIVIDUALS
AND GROUPS, THERE IS NO DOUBT HE CONSIDERS U.S. GOVERNMENT AS
HAVING BEEN ENEMY OF FRELIMO IN RECENT YEARS AND THUS STILL TO BE
VIEWED WITH SUSPICION NOW.

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PAGE 04 DAR ES 00458 131236Z

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